CONFERENCE STATES OF AMERICA. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1864.

We are not so frequently asked for news nowadays as we formerly were, for the reason, perhaps, that our paper now gets out quite as soon as we do, sometimes sooner. In truth, however, there is less exciting news now than at almost any former time for months past. There is a

temporary lull in the storm of war, but the calm which it produces will soon be broken up. GRANT is busy arranging for the opening campaign. He knows that much is expected of him, and that Lincoln, dreading his popularity as a candidate for the Presidency. has placed him (GRANT) in such a position as to enable him (Lincoln) to throw all the blame of any failure upon remain long idle, or permit any advantage to escape him. He is now at the crisis of his fate and will do all he can to

turn that crisis to his own advantage. THE MAILS received yesterday bring little news. We

try to glean what we can for this article. First, then, in reference to a matter which engages public attention at this time, we think the following announcement from Mr. MEMMINGER, published in the Richmond pa pers may be a matter of some considerable interest. It will be seen that it gives one more day for funding, and also states when and how the issue of new currency will commetce. We confess that we, like most others, sup. po sed that old currency could be funded in four per cent. bonds up to but not on the first of April. From the following announcement it will be seen that they can be funded days:"-

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A., Richmond, March 19, 1864. The following instruction is issued for the guidance: or all

officers of the Treasury Department. Treasury notes may be received and funded in four per on preceding days. The new notes to be issued as ourrency will bear the date of the act authorizing them, numely, 17th February, 1864 and the issue will be commenced on 2nd April, 1864, in making payment of demands upon the Treasury on and after that date.

C. G. MEMMINGER. Secretary of Treasury.

THE Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel publishes, the fol-RICHMOND, March 24 .- Four per cent. certificates and

bonds are transferable in the same manner as all other registered stock. See the remarks in the Biohmond Sentinel, of the 23d inst. C. G. MEMMINGER,

Secretary of the Treasury.

ALL our exchanges from the interior of the State speak of the snow storm of last week as very severe. The Greensboro' Patriot says it was terrific in the extreme for about fifteen long hours, the snow in that time having fallen to the depth of about seven inches. The Hillsboro' Recorder says that on Tuesday week it snowed all day, and at night the thermometer fell to 28 degrees. The weather here confinues cold, uncomfortable and equinoctial. Night before last it rained, and yesterday the wind howled around in a most melanchely manner, and at intervals the rain fell in

ATTEMPTED HIGHWAY ROBBERY .- An attempt at hi ghway robbery and murder was made upon the per. son of an old gentleman, Mr. Woodman Sidbury, on Saturday last, while he was on his way from Wilmington to his home on Topsail Sound. It appears that two men in soldiers' uniforms, accosted him in the public road, and demanded his money, which he refused to give up, when the fiends struck him several blows on the head with a club, thereby stunning him very severely and rendering him insensible. From some cause the culprits ceased their operations on the old gentleman without getting his money. He was still in his buggy insensible, and when he came to his senses he found that his horse had carried him near to a neighbor's on the sound. He then succeeded in getting home, where his wounds were dressed. Mr. Sidbury is in a very critical situation, and there is considerable doubt of his We presume the matter will be fully inves-We learn Mr. S. can identify the men. Mr. SIDBURY is quite an old and feeble man, and it is a great wonder that he got home after having received at least four blows on his head with a club. The parties engaged in the cutrage had first ascertained that he had no weapons. Their leaving him without consummating their purpose is, no doubt, due to their hearing some noise and fearing that some one was

Robbery.-Sometime during Monday night, some tached to the residence of Mrs. T. C. CRAFT, on Princess street, in the Eastern part of town, by digging unnot know that any clue has been found to the perpetratrust that there may be.

GENERAL JOHNSTON'S REPORT .- We devote a considerable portion of our space in to-day's issue: to Gen. sissippi during last year. It will, no doubt, be read week. with as much attention as anything else we could lay

Tue telegraph sometimes makes a nusing arnouncements, it possibly be otherwise, when we recollect that Denmark Proper (leaving out the Duchies, of course) has not more than a million and a half of people, and that she is attacked by the half of Europe, including two of the "Great Powers," Austria and Prussia?" It would be a miracle, to the Danes. The "leauged oppression" the toverbore Poland, was not half so unequal as this so-called war. Indeed, much as has been said about the progress of the present age, it would be difficult to find one in which the doctrine that "might makes right," has met with a more general or more practical acceptance. Of course there is never wanting a plausible excuse, and it makes little difierence upon what this excuse is based. Russia assisted Austria to crush Hungary in the interests of law and order, and Austria was glad to have Hungary crushed in the interests of her dynastic and bureaucratic "institutions." for one. The same Eussia that crushed Hungary in the interest of Austrian despotism, is the great friend and sympathiser with the despotism of ABRAHAM LINCOLN in its efforts to crush out the efforts of the Confederates for self-government. But this time, freedom, progress and civilization Austria which labored to compel, and with the aid of Russia did exmpel the the independent people of Hungary to abandon, for the time, at least, their seperate and independent nationality (for the Hungarians are not at all Germans) is now co-operating with Prussia to vindicate the nationality of the Duchies, and to rend them from the crown of Denmark under the rule of which they have been longer, and under which also they have erjoyed more freedom and more prosperity than has ever been vouch-safed to Hungary during her connection with Austria.

Who will believe that the same Russia that crushed out freedom in Hungary sympathizes with freedom in America? Who will believe that Austria, which holds the sepa. rate nationality of Hungary in chains, really sympathizes with the national or Germanic aspirations of the little Duchies on the Danish peninsula? Few we suppose. Me'a will see that Alexander of Russia recognizes in ABRAH AM LINGOLN of the United States a fellow-despot, and in the efforts of the South the struggles of another Poland. 7 they will see that Austria cares nothing about Sleawig, Ho stein or Lauenburn, but means to assist Prussia, so that we lat- difficulty in obtaining paper. "The Age" is a very ter may assist her in repressing her subjects of Ver letis or Hungary or other non-Germanic portions of the E aperor's dominions. Now does Prussia, where a complet , counterrevolution against constitutional ideas has by in effected by the Court, care about the vested rights of the Sleswig-Holsteiners. It is all a struggle for power. nations will submit now as they have done before. Denmark must take what she can get, and be : glad that it is no either in person or by proxy.

worse. If we are crushed, we must take what comes. party. Thanks to Providence we cannot be overrun as the Danes can-the smallest of our States exceeds Denmark Proper in area; -- North Carolina is over three times as large. The Danish population is also too small to cope with Austria, Prussia and the German Confederation on any terms. The war there is a foregone conclusion before it commences. Virgicia her. self, divided and impoverished as she appears to be, exceeds Denmark in military resources. And although the Danes are good seamen and have, for its size, a good navy and the Germans are not and have not, the season is unfareally Denmark derives little advantage, so far, from her naval superiority .- Daily Journal, 30th.

THE YANKER GOLD BASIS .- Our readers will recollect that we, in common with many other papers, have referred ciary-to the Courts. him. It is then reasonable to suppose that GRANT will not to the various jobbing operations by which the Yanker Treasury has so far succeeded, and still hopes to succeed in keeping down the premium upon gold.

A very short time since gold in New York went up to 169, whereupon Chass at once threw a certain amount of down to 160; but hardly had this been done when the temporary effect passed away, and gold commenced rising, until on Friday last it was up in New York to 1681, being but a trifle under its very highest point. That point, and over it, has no doubt already been attained, and it cannot be either put down below that or even kept down at that sustained the law, not even excepting North Carolina, ury notes. For this reason they are being hoarded, or said by any such tampering as Secretary Chase has been car- where the opinious of a majority of the Supreme

Before the first of May gold in New York will in all human probability reach fully 200; that is, it will take two " on the first of April in the same manner as on preceding dollars in greenbacks to buy one of gold. To a country so largely dependent upon foreign commerce, and trying to carry it on, this is little short of absolute ruin. When gold has reached 200, a state of things will have been reached at which there is no standing still. Either some backward step must be taken or the forward dash over the cent. certificates on the first of April in the same marmer as precipice of commercial and financial ruin must be looked

> It is true, and we are sorry to say if is true, that Confederate currency and finances have been about as bad as they could be, and that now, although impr ving, they are still " no better than they ought to be." It might appear that what we have been saying about commercial and financial ruin impending over the Yankees would apply even more forcibly to ourselves. We admit this, so far as the situations of the Yankees and Confederates are simi- suspension is sufficient to counterbalance the evil which foreign trade, as the Yankees do, would be impossible .-Fortunately for us the same Yankee blockade that prevents our receiving specie or its equivalent for our productions, and thus sustaining our currency, relieves us from the necessity of sustaining for tain, but it implies an exercise of extreme constitution. eign commercial relations, by cutting off foreign com- al powers, which give great concern to the doubtful and merce. The Yankees are differently situated. They depend upon their commercial and financial power, and when that fails, great, no doubt, will be the failure.

> > More Changes.

mander-in-Chief of their armies.

MEADE will also go under. That he is, or is to be desire it. suppreeded, has already been announced in the Northern papers. Where he is to go, or who is to come in his place, no one seems to know; only this much GRANT has stated himself, namely: that until further orders his headquarters will be with the Army of the Poto- than it is doing it, and further that our people in the

For sundry reasons many of our cotemporaries whollergy. ly disbelieve the Yankee programmes of the war which point to another " on to Richmond" as one of GRANT'S leading operations during the coming summer. They to the effect that the road destroyed by Sherman's contend that GRANT is too shrewd a general to betray his plans, and that if he had seriously contemplated any such movement he would never have let it out.

This may be so and it may not. GRANT might as sume that our people would reason precisely as above. That they would give him credit for more sense than to betray his projected movements in advance for our information, and thus assuming, he might suppose that for six months to come. he was no more betraying himself one way than the other. At any rate mere newspaper programmes are not to be accepted as General GRANT's plans, so that after all we can bardly form conclusions from the communicativeness or the reticence of the journals.

For our own part, we think there is pretty strong reason for supposing that Grant aspires to success in parties broke into the smokehouse and storeroom at a campaign in Virginia. He has lately been flattered enough to fill his mind with the impression that he is bound to succeed where others have failed. He thinks, der it and breaking up the brick pavement. They took perhaps, to assemble an overwhelming force to operate all the meat, meal and other provisions, and stole gar- against LEE as he did to operate against Vicksburg, den tools and other things stored in the house. We do and also against Bragg. He may also look upon a successful blow struck against Lee's army as likely to tors of this outrage upon a defenceless widow lady, but exercise a more decisive influence upon the progress o the war than one struck at any other point.

THE LIGHTH DAY OF APRIL, 1864, has been set apart throughout the Confederacy as a day of humiliation JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON'S Report of the campaign in Mis. and prayer. That day will come on next Friday

It is extremely desirable that the Ministers of the before our readers. It places Gen. PEMBERTON and different religious denominations in the Confederacy his report in a very unfavorable light, while it cannot should bear this fact in mind and endeavor to impress be pleasing to the friends of Gen. Johnston to find it upon the minds of their congregations. The frame that a simple detail of circumstances exonerates him of spirit induced by this solemn act may tend to make from all blame in connection with the Vicksburg dis- our people more dependent upon the protection of Providence, more truly willing to make sacrifices for their cause, more disinterested, more generous, more inclined as for instance, yesterday when it stated that the war was to do as they would be done by. Laying all other conprogressing unfavourably to the Danes. Now, how could siderations aside, who can doubt but that a people acting in this spirit, will be more deserving of the blessing of God than a people acting in a different spirit, or that they will be braver men and better citizens. But the mere observance of the day itself will not be and cannot indeed, if such a war should not progress unfavo arably to be productive of the same amount of good that might reasonably be expected to flow from it if contemplated, prepared for and looked forward to for some time pre-

> GOLD for the old currency sells in Richmond at 21 for one. This, for the new currency, would be only equivalent to 14 for one. The Richmond Whig thinks that in two weeks gold will not be worth more than 10

We fear, however, that there will not be a correst to dispose, from time to time, of the gold reserve in the ponding reduction in the cost of the necessaries of life, for the simple reason that in many of these necessaries there is an actual scarcity, which would cause prices to are the thirgs with which Russia sympathises! The same rule high in any currency, even were it at par with gold and silver.

"this is especially the case with manufactured goods, which cannot be manufactured in the Confederacy in this gold would have a greater effect in sustaining their P. M., I noticed that the sun was unusually red; in a few truth." sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the country, while the recent regulations and restrictions placed up- if thrown upon the market in a speculative attempt to the bottom of the sun's disk, which grew larger, and as it pretty much cut off the supplies from that source.

We do not think, that it was the design either of fail, and the greenback currency go down and gold go Congress or of the der artments to stop the introduction up, all the faster because of the futile and unphilosowhich did not fade until the sun had disappeared behind of goods through the b. bekade, but whether designed or phical attempts to maintain their equilibrium. not, the rules recently put in force appear very likely to effect that object. At least such are the present indi-

We have received "The Age," a Southern Eclectic Magazine, for February, 18364. The publishers make three days more for funding \$100 bills and under and over credidable Magazine, under ali' the circun stances.

WE are requested by Dr. Gi BRES, President of the Press Association, to state that the annual meeting of said Association will be held at Augusta, Ga., on the gain of might for its own increase and security; and other 6th day of next April, and that it is desirable nations will submit now as they have done there should be as full a meeting of the? Press as possible par

BEFORE the Georgia Lysislature adjourned on Satfor the world will never sympathize with the defeated urday night week, forty one of the membe a protested against the passage of the Stephena resolutions, denying the power of Congress to pass the law suspending the operation of the writ of habeas corpus. The protesting members held, and we think correctly, that this was a question for the Courts and not for the Legislature. All questions of construction of laws or consti- October, inclusive, at fi. tutional powers come properly before the Judiciary. and not before the Legislative or Executive branches every vertige of value. of the Government of Georgia. On the question of vourable for naval operations in so high a latitude, so that constitutional construction. Governor Brows's opinion, or the opinion of the Legislature of Georgia, is but an opinion, and not at all an authority. To decide authoritatively on such subj cts pertains to the Judi-

The question of the necessity for the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus is somewhat doubtful, we confess; and we hardly see that much has been gained by it that could not have been secured without it .gold into market, with the temporary effect of bringing it We allude chiefly to the uniform enforcement of the act of Congress of last January, putting principals into service. Circumstances have shown that that might, with all safety, have been left in the hands of the State Courts; as their decisions have uniformly Court are known to be invorable to the law and contrary to the adverse position of Chief Justice PEARson, who will thus be overruled.

The act suspending the writ of habeas corpus, although not abused, and indeed hard'y usedat all, is nevertheless an unpopular enactment. Whether, in effect, it does interfere with any man's rights or not, it seems to confer the power to do so. The general opin- Mr. D. C. Labatt, of New Orleans, a resident at present o ion throughout the Confederacy will no doubt be suf. ficiently marked to decide the next Congress in the course it will take with reference to this act, and that course will, we think, be adverse to its re enactment It may be permitted to expire by its own limitation, but will hardly receive any new lease of life.

We question if any probable good derived from the lar, but no farther. For us to attempt to carry on a it does by giving an apparently fair and valid ground for capital against the administration and against the Confederacy. Whether it is so or not, it looks like military despotism. It is constitutional, we feel ceroffer the best chance of complaint to the dissatisfied .-The writ is an old and venerated one, and justly guarded with jealousy by a free people. It is true there may be some grounds of necessity for its suspension, with The enemy is about trying on a new programme this which neither we nor the people in general are acquaintoring. HALLECK, as our readers are aware, has gone ed, but until we are better acquainted with such grounds under, and GRANT is now the Yankee " man on horse or have stronger assurances of their existence, we will back "-the new Napoleon of their hopes -the Com- be apt to think that if the people do not demand the repeal of the suspension act, they will at least strongly

> THE rapid repair of the railroads in Mississippi, destroyed by Sherman's forces, shows two things :- One is that it is easier talking about distroying railroads Southwest are not yet shorn of their spirit and en-

> A dispatch from Meridian, Miss., published in the Richmond Enquirer of Saturday, furnishes information force had been repaired in 25 working days, and it was expected that thirty-five additional miles destroyed by General Suitti, would be repaired in ten days more.

> This is certainly a surprising statement in view of the immense harm which SHERMAN claimed to have inflicted upon the roads, sufficient one would think to have prevented their being put in working order again

EASTER SUNDAY has come and gone. It has made less noise than it once did, though for that matter, so do all celebrations, or at least they seem so to us. The world is getting older perhaps; the individuals and nations certainly do so as individuals, though as an aggregate, we suppose that people will average about the same they used to, since none can advance to middle life or old age without passing through childhoo! and youth, so that the morning and forenoon of life must continue to bear their wonted proportions to its after noon and evening.

Lent, which closed with E:s'er' was a perplexing period, since is duration was about coincident with that of the fuss about the new and the old currency and change was not to be had without much tribulation.

The solemn observances of the Catholic and Episcopal Churches are no doubt still kept up in connection with the season of Lent, but we take it for granted that the abstinence from meats has been but sparingly enforced. Fish could not be had, soldiers could not fast and people, not soldiers, were generally glad to get either fish, fl.sh or lowl without running much risk of

The time during which the question of funding will remain an open one is rapidly drawing to a close. He who wakes up on Friday morning having neglected to make the proper funding arrangements to meet his taxes, will probably wake up feeling semewhat like an "April Fool."

By the way the Charleston Courier makes mention of Easter eggs as among the "institutions" still surviving as late as last week. We had forgotten their

It is sincerely to be hoped now that Easter has come and gone-that Lent is over, and funding about "play ed out" we may have some weather more favourable for gardens and early vegetables. Every hing looks about as ill as it can do. We do not recollect a more backward season, but perhaps we never paid quite as ach attention to the signs of the times in that way.

THE YANKER GOLD BILL.—This bill, recently passed by both houses of the Yankee Congress, and about which so much has been said, simply authorizes CHASE U. S. Treasury, for the purpose of keeping down the market price of gold.

This gold reserve arises from gold paid in taxes on imports, etc., at the subtreasuries, and indeed forms the only specie basis of the immense volume of greenbacks which flood the North. It would really seem as though greenbacks. After a while all these make-shifts must

Funding the Currency. We have already published a synopsis of the Act for funding of Confederate Treasury notes. We do not sup pose we will be trespassing upon the pat'ence of our readers by republishing the following. There remain but five, at par for 4 per cents. After Thursday next all noninterest bearing notes above \$5 will be subjected to a discount of 33} per cent. Then comes the funding of \$5's.at par, which can be continued until the first of July next miles this side of Newbern, and have mounted a two when they will be also subject to the same discount of 334 hundred pounder rifle gun at the mouth of Bachelor's per cent. The tollowing is the synopsis alluded to above: The one hundred dollar non-interest bearing notes are receivable for public dues before April 1, '54, at par ; from and after April 1, 1864, not receivable at all, but.
Fundable in 4 per cent. bonds before April 1, 1864, at

Fundable in 4 per cent. bonds from first to last day

Fundable in 4 per cent, bonds from first to last day of May, exclusive, at 5 %. Fundable in 4 per cent. bonds from first to last day of June, exclusive, at 4F3. Fundable in 4 per cent. bonds from first to July, exclusive, at 3f 3.

Funding in 4 per cent, bonds from first to last day of August, inclusive, at 261. Fonding in 4 per cent. September, inclusive, at 10% Fundable in 4 per cent. bones from first to last day of All non-interest hearing \$100 notes held ob the 1st of January, 1805, are taxed 100 per cent, thus destroying

\$50, \$20 and \$10 notes receivable for public does before April 1, 1864, at par. After that time at 61 }. Exchangeble for new Treasury notes from on and after lat April, 1864, at \$3 old to \$2 new. \$5 notes receivable and fundable, at par until let July, 1864; f. om. on and after July 1, 1864, reduced in value at

the rate of \$3 of old to \$2 of new, and so receivable for dues, faudable in 4 per cent. bonds ; exchargeable fer new There is no reference to \$2, \$1 and 50 cent notes in the

bill, and it is presumed, therefore, that they will continue If a \$100 note is held until the first of January an additional tax o' \$10 (for Dember) will attach to it and the

holder, by the imposition of a turther tax of one hundred per cent., will, besides losing the amount promised on the face of the note, owe the Government one handred and ourteen and one-third dollars! The privilege of funding the fives in four per cent, bonds commences on the first April, and ends the list day of

lune, on this side of the Mi sissippi river. The \$2, \$1, and half dollar notes are not subject to any tax under the "Currency Act," and will consequently, be exchangeable at par, in trade, for the new issue of Treas- an incursion into Kentucky. for future u.e The amount of Confederate small notes in circulation of

the 1st January, 1864, was about \$10,000.000.

WE are happy to inform the Commercial Public that a pamphiet, containing the late legislation and regulations of the Department in relation to the Blockade business, is in our hands for publication. It will specify the articles of merchandize permitted or prohibited, with an appendix and all proper and useful information to supply the necessities of our merchants. The work has been prepared by Wirmington and will shortly be ready for sale.

ONCE MORE .- If the report of Burnside's having once more returned to North Carolina is confirmed, and we think it will be, it would indicate that this State is to be made the theatre of more important movements | days.

than any recently undertaken within her borders. Burnside established some prestige in this State by the capture of Newbern and Roanoke Island, and perhaps desires to return to the scenes of his early and only triumphs. As he is an officer of higher rank than has lately been sent to this State, it is reasonable to suppose that he will be placed at the head of a heavier force than any of his more immediate predecessors, Rumor fixes his command at a very indefinite figure, ranging anywhere from ten thousand to fifty thousand, supposed to be new levies, and not veterans drawn from the army of the Potomac.

It will be recollected that Burnside's operations in North Carolina pointed to an advance into the interior. and also to an attack upon Wilmington, as a leading object. Bling forced to fly to McClellan's assistance below Richmond, of course his movements in North Carolina had to be abandoned.

It is said that Burnside has recently been organizing important from Denmark. a force at Annapolis, and it may be this force which he has brought to our State.

WE would like to know how long old Amos Kendal calculates living. We thought him dead years ago but found out our mistake by his turning up at some meeting or other. Now we see that the old man has been figuring in the McClellan meeting held at the Cooper Institute in New York, on the 17th. It really looks like a political resurrection. However, Mr. Kendal goes it strong for the General and against President Lincoln, whom he accuses of fanaticism and imbecility.

FIVE DILLAR NOTES .-- The Richmond Sentinel of the 26th inst., thinks the hoarders of five dollar notes will soon be glad to produce them and throw them into circulation. After the first of April they will be undesirable as compared with the new currency, and the smaller notes; for they will have to be funded in four per cents. prior to the 1st of July, or submit to a tax of one-third. So the small-note famine will be ended in a few days. [We learn that five dollar notes are now worth a premium of 25 per cent .- Journal.]

For the Journal.

Suggested by the skirmish at Morton's Ford, on the Rapid an River, Va., Oct. 11th, 1863.

The night was dark and dreary, The lonely sentry's tread Alone spoke through the darkness, All nature is not dead. Adown their wonted winding; The limpid waters ran; Calm as an infant sleeping, A'ong the Rapidan.

Wrapped up in sleep's embraces, Not dreaming of disturbance Refore the break of day When quick as thought, with thunder Kilpatrick's vandal clan Let fly a thousand minnies, Along the Rapidan.

Fall in! cries each commander; Attention ! load at will : A thousand Yankee horsemen Are on the neighboring hill : Each soldier now a sentry, Sharp-shooters to the van ;

Confront the Yankee faiders.

And dr ve the foul invader

Thus waiting for an order, Just at the break of day We welcomed Lomack's horsemen And boldly led the way The order came to forward Re steady to a man,

Forward! cries each subaltern : Ply rifle shot and shell Make each directed fire On Lincoln's minions tell In pell-me: | and confusion, The discomfitted Yankees

Re-crossed the Rapidan. Then joined by Lee and Garrett, Who led us in the chase, Away for Brandy Station We gave the Yanks a race With speed like locomotives Th' affrighted Yankees ran, Across the Rappahannock And left the Bapidas. Taylorsville, Va., March 22nd, 1864.

> For the Journal. A REMARKABLE PHENOMENON.

MESSES. EDITORS: As it may be of some interest to th public, I will relate a singular phenomenon I saw on the sun on Saturday evening, the 19th inst, About five o'clockf currency, if retained as a basis for the circulation, than minutes I discovered two dark-red streaks running North and South. In a very short time a dark spot appeared on on blockade running seem to have had the effect to keep gold down by trading off the specie basis of the ascended up through the centre, it had the appearance of a lion's head and mane. About the time it reached the centre, another appeared on the left or South, which grew more rapidly, and soon drove the first out through the Northwestern corner; after both had disappeared a black the Western hills. The above can be vouched for by my brother as well as myself. G. F. WALKER.

From Newbern.

Lorg Creek, N. C.

We find the following paragraphs in the Richmond Enquirer of the 23d. We had not before heard about the rifle guns, &c., though it may all be true. The Enquirer Bays :

"The Yankees are blockading the Neuse river, four Creek, immediately on the banks of the Neuse. The Yankee forces at Newbern is estimated at about

Gen. Hoke is at Kinston, and has determined to break up the illicit traffic in cotton and tobacco that has been going on for a long time between some of our people and the Yankees of Newbern."

## TELEGRAPHIC

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District

DALTON, March 25th, 1864 No reinforcements, with the exception of one returning Regiment, has arrived in front as yet, though Gon. Oakley supposes that Sherman will be brought wishin striking

A heavy snow fell last night, followed by a hard raise which has put the roads in bad order again.

FROM DALTON.

DALTON, March 26th, 1864. Ecouts from the front report the enemy quiet. As many giments are believed leaving on forty days' fuclough as there are returning. The weather is clear to day, and the sively to consumers, and not to others to sell again, an roads are drying finely.

FROM THE UNITED STATES. BICHMOND, March 26th, 1864.

The Philadelphia It quirer of the 22d has been received, 50,000 troops are shortly to-be assembled at Aprapolis for Burnside's second expedition It is stated that Longstreet is mounting his infantry for

Averill is ill at Martinsburg.

Gold in N.Y, on the 21st was quoted at 63 | Exchange The Inquirer's London correspondence thinks that the Palmerston Ministry will soon be custed. The Canadian

Ministry has resigned. A flag of truce boat was reported coming up the river yerterday evening.

[SECOND DISPATCH.] RICHMOND, March 26, 1864.

There was quite a financial excitement here to-day in consequence of the expiration of time allowed by the banks for the withd wal of deposits. Funding has rapidly increased. All kinds of bonds and stocks are in demand at

A report that the flag of truce boat was approaching City Point is incorrect. No hoat is expected for several

EUROPEAN AND UNITED STATES NEWS.

RICHMOND, VA., March 28th, 1804. The Biltimore Mercury of the 26th inst., has been received. It contains dispatches from the West, which gives the particulars of the capture of Fort Pellussa, on the Red River, by the Yankees, with 200 prisoners and several

Admira! Porter at once steamed up to Alexandria. Gen. Grant and staff arrived at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac on the 25th, and was received with

Gold closeden New York on Friday last at 1684. Burnside visited Washington on Thursday last. The troops for his expedition are rapidly assembling at Anap-

The Ohio Democratic Convention adopted a resolution

The Pennsylvania Convention declared in favor of Mc-Clellan for the Presidency. The appeal in the Alexandra case come up for discussion in the House of Lords on the 11th. There is nothing

The war is progressing anversely to the Danes. Maxamillian arrived at London on the 12th. There is no revelation as to his future movements. The King of Bayaria died on the 11th.

FROM NEW ORLEANS AND RICHMOND.

dates from New Orleans to the .8th just. had been received, which state that the Yankees had met with a severe the next fifty thousand dollars, and one tenth of one per reversa near Iberia. Two regiments are reported to have cent. on all monies collected and paid over, above the

All the gunboats except eight have left for Red Elver. Col. Holland, of the 21st Mississippi, attacked the enemy dollars for every one hundred taxable persons contains at Choctaw Hatchee Bay, killing 25 and capturing over in the list as completed and delivered to the Collector.

the old issue of five dollar notes after the first of April,

GOV. VANCE ADDRESSES THE TROOPS.

and will receive them in payment until further notice.

ORANGE C. H, March 27th, 1864. Gov. Vance, of North Carolina, addressed the troops of Daniel's Brigade in an able and elequent speech of two required by regulations. hours on yesterday. He will speak again to morrow, and

Gens. Lee, Hill, Edwa: d Johnson, Rodes and many other general officers were present to hear him on yesterday. The weather is fair and the roads are drying up fast .-

UNLISMAYED AND BELLIGERENT ASPECT OF THE

Confederacy.—The Washington correspondent of the New York World says : "The first fact which falls under my observation, and without which it would be in possible for any one to form an accurate estimate of the temper and recources of the Southern people, is the readiness with which alty of one thousand dollars, with costs, which the costs government, and the self-sacrificing spirit with which they accept the heaviest burdens. This spirit pervades all classes. It actuates the rich and the poor, and transforms individual exertions into acts of the highest wrong cause originates in the loftiest aspirations or in all the passions, is not for me to say, my province be ing simply to relate facts and not to investigate moral causes. But that such is the state of public sentiment in nearly all parts of the South, not only eye witnesses any clerk in the office of such Treasurer, Assistant Tre but evidences of an unquestionable character abundantly prove. I could mention bundreds of facts in which the self sacrificing spirit to which I have just alluded has manifested itself in its loftiest forms. The hundreds of women who have sent their bu bands and sons satisfaction of the recretary of the Treasury, that the to the battle field ; the hundreds of widows who have ceipt of such forged or counterfeit Treasury notes was n parted with their last boy, their only support; the hundreds of citizens who have given their last dollar, the hundreds of ladies who have given up their with the power to relieve such officer from liability. last jewels, and the hundreds of ministers who have proof contemplated by said section, in case any Tax shouldered the musket during the last month in defense of the sacred soil, are as many evidences in support of my assertion. There is a captain of a regiment, a Mr. or the Collector, and transmitted to this office through Chatard, sending five hundred dollars to a sister of State Collector, who is required to give his written opinion charity for the relief of the sick and wounded; there as to the merits of the application for relief. is an Alabama brigade re-enlisting with the oath that they will live on bread alone, and go barefooted, rather to be fixed by the Commissioners under the impressent than leave the flag under which they have fought during act. The commutation will be collected by Post Quart the lest three years; here I meet the fact of an old ac- masters, and not by the collectors of money tax. quaintance of mine, Howell Cobb, proposing to sell the government thirty thousand pounds of bacon and nev, shall have been burned or otherwise destruction in money tax. forty thousand bushels of corn, at its own price; thority of the Government, before the expiration of further. Wade Hampton, the wealthiest citizen of South | time fixed by law for the payment of the tax thereon, to Carolina, sending an order for all his slaves, his money, tax payer may apply to the district collector, who shall be a state of the district collector, who shall be a state of the district collector. and his estates to Jeff. Davis. Add to this the farmers pouring their crops into the government granaries, Government authority, remit the said tax. If the tax the planters turning their cotton and rice to its credit, any such case shall have been paid in advance, it shall the people cheerfully giving up eight hundred millions refunded by the State collector, and the tax payer, in o of dollars of their hard wrought earnings to be converted into bonds bearing a low interest, the payment of which is by no means certain, and consenting to be to this office. When the crop, out of which the tax in h burdened with a new issue half as large, and you will is to be paid, has been taken or destroyed by the enem have a faint idea of the spirit of devotedness and selfsacrifice which now unimates the South. This is not

A Good Joke.

The following is an extract from a private letter. It is too good to keep private :

Houston, February 11, 1864. \* \* I must tell you a good thing that occurred here apropos of General Smith. On his arrival here some days since he made his way to Gen. Magruder's office. But one staff officer happened to be in, and as young men sometimes will do, he was occupying a position more comfortable than elegant, with his back in the door, singing "Dixie." General Smith interrupted him with, "Is this General Magruder's office?" The young officer broke off his

song only enough to reply, "yes sir."
Gen. 8.—"Is the General is?" Officer-"No sir." Gen. S .- "Will be be in FOOL?" Officer\_"Don't know, sir.

Gen. S .- "How long has he been gone?" Officer\_"Don't know sir.

Gen. S .\_ "Where is he?"

Officer-" Don't know, sir. It's not my week to ke

Gen. S .- "Ahem! My pame is Smith. Officer-"Yes. Good many Smiths about; severa! bee to see the General. Gen. S .- "They sometimes call me Lientenant General

Officer-"The hell you say The officer turned a very rapid somerset and disappear-Dixie with a spirit, since the occurrence, he never felt beInstructions to Tax Collectors.

Hon. Thompson Allen, the Commissioner of Taxes. has issued the following additional instructions, adapt ed to the amendments of the tax laws of 1863, and to the act imposing additional taxes, approved 17th Feb. ruary, 1864, which will be duly observed by all offi cers engaged in the assessment and collection of taxes

for the Confederate States : 1. Interest bearing Treasury notes, usually known as

the 7:30 notes, are no longer to be received in payment of 2. No certificate of deposit for taxes, made since 17th February, 1864, will be received in payment of tax a. as illegally paid.

are less than \$500, shall pay \$75 specific tax, and where their quarterly sales exceed \$300, the specific tax shall be \$50, as heretofore. Where such sales are less than \$1100 the party is exempt from the specific tax. 4. Every person whose business it is to sell or offer to

sell slaves shall be deemed a wholesale dealer. 5. Contractors working for and selling their own produc's exclusively to the Confederate States, to an amount not exceeding \$5,000 a year, and dealers that sell exclu-6. Distillers are required, as heretofore, to pay 70 per

centum on tales, and also 20 per centum on the value of a l liggers distilled for others. This refers exclusively to general distillers, and not to distillers of fruit for ninety days or les. The tax on distillers is declared to be a bou on the still or stills, and ucon the other articles and tixtu . used, and shall have priority over all other liens. 7. Twenty rays are allowed registered persons to make

their quarierly returns, efter the expiration of a quar er, and payment of the tax is required to be made with such time as the Collector shall designate; time not to be less than ten, 10: more than thirty days from date of

8. When the income on any manufacturing or mining bu siness is derived from the production of pig. melal or bloom iron from the ore, there shall be deducted the coof labor, food and necessary repairs. 9. When the farmer or planter shall fail to deliver he

taxes in kind, as required by law, he is required to pay five times the estimated value of the portion not delivere. to be collected in the manner heretofore provided. 10. Not only farmers, planters and graziers, are requi ed to pay the tax in kind on slaughtered hogs, but every other person who slaughters hogs is required to pay to

same, except such persons as do not slaughter untre the 250 pounds of net pork, and they are exempt. 11. Every officer, soldier, or seam in the military naval service, or who may have been discharged there from on account of wounds, or physical disability, and any widow of such officer, soldier or seaman, or any head of a family, who does not own more than two cows and eateris excepted from the tax imposed on neat cattle.

12. In districts heretotore, or which may hereafter ascertained to be, impracticable for the collection of taxe in kind, where Quartermasters and Commissaries, server, with troops in the field, shall have collected, or may here after collect, from producers any portion of the tax in kind, the receipts of such officers shall be held good to the producers against the collection of the money value their tax, to the extent and value of such portions as manhave been, or may be hereafter, collected. Tax Collected. tors are directed to receive such receipts under the man of the tax payer in satisfaction of the money value of title so collected, provided they are satisfied the same are are uine, and to turn them over to the State Collector as a

much cash, and the State Collector will return them to the Section 13 of the amended act requires that Assessor til such Assessors are so appointed and qualified, and no tice thereof given, the present Assessors will continue to discharge all the duties of Assessors of the tax in kind, m

well as of money taxes, as heretofore, 13. The estimate of incomes and profits, and the state ments of bills for the amount of tax on occupations, & required, by section 14 Tax Act, shall be arranged and copied into a general list; a true copy of which shall be sent to the State Collector, in lien of the bills, estimate

and statements themselves. 14. The salaries of State Collectors shall be one tenth of one per cent. on the amount collected in each State, the salary in no case to be less than \$3,000 nor mere the 15. The assessors are required to make the two general

lists of persons taxed, which have been heretofore remain 16. All property, currency, credits, income and profi and every article or object subjected to taxation shall ! estimated, valued and assessed at the value thereof at the time of assessment, in Confederate Treasury notes. 17. The compensation of District Collectors will her ter be five per cent. on the first twenty thousand dolls collected and paid over, two per cent. on the next third

thousand dollars collected and paid over, one per cent. sum of one hundred thousand dollars. 18. Assessors shall be allowed eight collars for ever day employed in making lists and assessments, and end 19. Referees under the Tax Act, shall be paid for the services five dollars a day, while so employed, and asse sors and collectors are empowered to compel the attendance of witnesses by written summons, and to require their testimony in any matter or investigation in relevent

to the assessments and estimates of taxes, and such wi nesses are entitled to such compensation as is allowed Payments to referees and witnesses, will be made by the disbursing clerk of this office, upon accounts certified an

20. When personal goods or chattels distrained for ta es, shall be claimed by any person other than the pa for whose default the distraint is made, the claimant she be required to file with the officer making the distraint, a affidavit, stating distinctly the nature and extent of I ciam; and then the right of property shall be determine

refuse to select a freeholder, the collector shall select two who shall proceed to decide the claim. Witnesses may be introduced by either party, and the decision in each ra shall be final and conclusive. The referees and witnesses in such cases shall be par

as before stated, and any witness failing to attend the summons of referees, in any case is subject to a p they comply with the arbitrary order of an absolute tor is instructed to sue for in any court of competent risdiction. 21. The Secretary of the Tre Bury is authorized to d

whenever he shall deem it expedient to do so, and it Whether this absolute devotedness to a to devise the manner and form of making returns at estimates. Whenever any such new form or plan is d vised and adopted with reference to any class of tax or the blindest prejudices, not to say in the most cruel of turns, special instructions will be issued to the tax offer explanatory of the same. 22. Section five of the act amendatory of the and

ment act provides that if the Treasurer, Assistant Trearer, or Depository of money of the Contederate States. surer or Depository, or any Collector of Taxes, who the lawful business of such officer, have received in pa-ment or or deposit, in such office, any forged or counter feith Treasury notes, and shall establish by proof to !! the result of any want of diligence or care and attenti on the part of such officer, but was in good faith a mista involving no fault on his part, the Eccretary is inve lector has received such counterfeit notes and is unable trace them to the person from whom they were received shad be made out in writing, accompanied by the affilian 23. Producers of sweet potatoes in 1463 may make c

investifiate the facts and make report thereof to the Sta collector, who may, if satisfied of such destruction of appeal to the Secretary of the Treasury, which app shall be transmitted by the State collector, with him the district collector may remit the tax in whole or in part according to the extent of the loss sustained by the payer. The facts in each case shall be reported to the a fanciful but real picture, rather below than above trict collector, and the remission shall not be valid un approved by him, and in case 'the loss be sustained po to assessment, the assessor, on satisfactory proof the may make deduction therefor in proportion to the loss In practicable districts, the next quartermasters hold and controlling the estimate of taxes in kind, shall be be

> lector of money taxes, he shall have power to ramit. 25. The daily wages of detailed soldiers and other ployees of the Government, which are exempt from to ion as income, extends only to persons who are employ and paid by the Government, and who do not receive at gular salary but only daily wages. 26. The tenth of tobacco shall be collected by the age appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and all assessors shall transfer their estimates of the tobacco. from each person, specifying both quantity and quality is said agents or to sub-agents, taking their receipts the countries and shall also transmit a copy of these estimates to the chief of the produce loan office at kichmond. The tax "

and considered as the district collector, upon whom

power is conferred to remit. But in impracticable distri

where estimates have been turned over to the district

sersors shall also require a statement from such farmer planter as to the dinerent qualities of tobacco raised bim, and shall assess as due to the Confederate States out tenth of each of said qualities, which shall be stated sepa rately in his estimates, and shall be delivered separately by the farmer or planter.

TAX ON PROPERTY, MONEY AND CREDITS UNDER ACT OF 7TH FEBRUARY, 1864, LEVYING ADD TIONAL TAXES.

27. The district collectors shall, as soon as practice sile. ed in a twinkling, it is said that he sings his wishes about after being furnished with the necessary forms, send the assessors throughout their respective districts to inquire after and procure returns of all taxable property, moneys,